

NEW HIGH SCHOOL NOW IS UP TO THE PEOPLE

**Petition Praying For Permission To Vote
\$95,000 Bonds Now Being Circu-
lated-The Consent Of Majority
Of Taxpayers Is Needed.**

Aside from the war and ore mark-
et, perhaps people in Baxter Springs
are interested in the school question
more than in any other subject.

What is being done to provide ade-
quate school facilities for the dis-
trict?

It is pretty well known that the
Board of Education has been engaged
for several months in working out
plans for a new high school building
to be erected on the school site in the
south part of the city.

The preliminary work has been
completed by Architect Overton. A
perspective view of the building has
been exhibited. The cost of the struc-
ture, completed and furnished is es-
timated at about \$100,000.

The school district has no building
fund. In fact the district is barely
out of debt for the old building erected
46 years ago. The last of the
bonds are being paid off this year out
of last year's levy.

To build the proposed new high
school it will be necessary for the city
to vote bonds in a sum between \$95,-
000 and \$100,000.

Owing to the state law which for-
bids a school district to bond for a
sum in excess of 2 1/2 per cent of the
total assessed valuation of the dis-
trict, the amount needed in Baxter
Springs cannot be legally voted ex-
cept by special permission from the
state school fund commission.

There is a provision in the state
school laws to the effect that in case
any district needs more money than
can be raised by the usual process, it
can increase the building fund up to
50 per cent by first securing a pe-
tition signed by a sufficient number of
qualified electors to represent a ma-
jority of the votes cast in the dis-
trict at the last general election.

After the signers of such a petition
have been secured the petition must be
taken before the state school funds
commission and receive that body's
endorsement.

Such steps are right now being taken
in Baxter Springs. A petition is
being circulated for the signatures of
men and women qualified to vote;
praying that the district be permit-
ted to vote bonds in a sum sufficient
to erect and equip the proposed high
school building.

So far as the canvassers have gone
they have met with scarcely any ob-
jection to the plan. Nearly all realize

the great importance of providing
good schools for Baxter Springs. They
also realize that at the present time
hundreds of children of school age
are denied the privilege of an educa-
tion here because the school building
is not large enough to take care of
them. The question of whether Baxter
is going to provide good schools is
the first point raised by a prospec-
tive new citizen; especially by a
family with children. Baxter cannot
hope to grow and maintain the pres-
ent values on her property unless she
does provide good schools. This im-
portant fact is so well known by all
that there is little doubt about the
petition being signed by more than a
majority.

The assessed valuation of the Bax-
ter school district as reported by the
assessors who have just completed
their work, is \$3,020,673. Under the
regular provision of the law the dis-
trict could bond only for 2 1/2 per cent
of that sum, which would raise \$75,-
516.87. To raise about \$95,000.00 the
district would have to bond for about
3 1/4 per cent of its valuation. To in-
sure this increase is the reason the
board is having petitions circulated at
this time. It is the desire of the board
that all should thoroughly understand
the proposition.

As soon as the petition is signed by
a sufficient number of legal voters it
will be taken to Topeka and present-
ed to the state school funds commis-
sion. Should that body then grant
the permission sought the school
board will then proceed to call a bond
election which can be held 20 days
after the call.

A market has already been secured
for the bonds which it carried will at
once be marketed and the work on the
new building begun, possibly by July
1. If the erection of the building can
be started July 1 it will be possible to
occupy the new building at the begin-
ning of the second semester, after the
holidays.

J. W. Kaltenbach, G. W. Staton and
Miss Verna Canaday motored to Col-
umbus during the end of the week to
see the soldiers leave.

Leslie and Mrs. Meyerding motored
to Columbus Sunday in company with
Mrs. O. M. Spratt to see some of the
Baxter boys leave for the training
camps.

frayed the expenses to Columbus last
Sunday where the company put on a
drill on the square. Mr. Hartley and
Ray Satterlee will leave Saturday for
Columbus from where they will be
sent into training at Camp Logan,
Colorado. The local company will ac-
company them to Columbus.

The Home Guards have been or-
dered to assemble at the Goodenough
hall Thursday afternoon at 1:30 to
march from the cemetery with the G.
A. R.

It is unusual to see girls who come
from aristocratic homes stooping in
the hot sun, living in environment un-
known to them before—but well chap-
eroned and as happy as can be. These
khaki clad girls are saving the straw-
berry crop at Sarcosie, Mo. This all
goes to prove the spirit of the girls
of today, doing all they can in a
beneficial patriotic way. Quite an
unusual and unique sight can be seen
near Sarcosie this week on account of
seventeen Missouri University girls
who have come down from Columbia
to assist in the wonderful strawberry
harvest there. The yield in this par-
ticular field was greater than the help
and when Mrs. Miller of St. Louis,
chairman of Women's Industries in
Missouri appealed to the University
girls she found a prompt and ready
response.

Miss Mildred Abel left during the
end of the week for Kansas City
where she will make a visit of a
month with home folks.

DO NOT TARRY

These should be busy days in Baxter Springs. Swiftly, surely,
omnipotently Uncle Sam's strong arm is reaching into the vitals of
the community for men and materials requisitioned to carry on the
great war. Men are being taken into France by tens and hundreds
of thousands and for every every man at the front ten men must
labor for Uncle Sam at home. Daily the clutch of undeniable war
measures fasten more securely on every village, hamlet and city in
the land. The change here at Baxter Springs has been so gradual
that it has been scarcely noticed, but the time is steadily and surely
approaching when everything in the way of public and domestic im-
provement must cease; that every ounce of energy may be poured
into the stream that empties at the front in France. The time is al-
most past for recommendations and requests—war to us will swiftly
become more grim, stern and hard. Our luxuries and our time will
not be asked as it has in the past; it will be disposed of without our
consent. We know these things must be to win the war and the war
must be won—whatever the cost.

We have been asked to conserve food. The time is almost at
hand when we will no longer be asked—war is too bloody and ghastly
to depend on public request. We have been asked to work on the
farm. The time is near when those of us who must will be ordered
to work on the farm.

We have here in Baxter Springs, perhaps days, perhaps weeks,
perhaps a few months, to finish up our unfinished job of city making
—rejuvenation as it were. But our days of grace are numbered and
we'll have to hurry—no one knows how long the war will last. This
is no time for temporizing. Do everything now that won't keep over
for a few years. We are not attempting to prophesy how long the
war will last, but indications are for a long and bitter war. We now
know that barring an internal breakdown in Germany victory for the
allies is many weary months ahead. If the war goes to a final mili-
tary decision the most able writers predict five years as the least
time possible for us to completely whip the Huns, Savages, Cannibals,
Baby Killers assembled in millions under the German standard.

We have a few days of grace to do a huge amount of work in—
let's do it. If need be hire men while there is men to hire. Just 131
men leave Cherokee county Monday morning. The surplus has long
been in training. These hundreds go from the meat and the bone of
the county's working organization. A tremendous re-adjustment is
facing us. Almost every act of life must be changed to meet the
terrible cost and sacrifice across the water. Already national speakers
and national news sources are preparing us for the changed con-
ditions that are to come, but as yet we have only a glimpse of it.
Perhaps some sections of the country comprehend more generally
than others the necessities that big war entails, but we here in Bax-
ter Springs somewhat beguiled by a new found prosperity have not
seen this war in its true mien. Everything is so general in its nature
and so devoid of local color that only those called to the colors and
those nearest them have so far had the vision to read the days ahead.
Get ready! This talk of normal life in the days to come is like the
camouflage of loving the German people and hating the Kaiser and
the war lords.

Judging from the exchanges the order to go into effect regarding
occupation on the 1st of July fell like a bomb in some parts of the
country and yet this is ostensibly but a preliminary section of a mea-
sure that will be infinitely more far reaching than it now appears.
Every man today is asking himself whether his occupation is useful.
This applies not only to the working man but to the business and
professional men. Many men will be wrecked in business in the
months to come because their particular line of business is not useful
or constructive. Now is the time to "get set." More drastic mea-
sures than we have yet known loom up ahead.

We iterate that Baxter Springs big opportunity came at a time
of national stress and our municipal crisis is fast fading before the
brighter hues of the great national crisis. Let's get set to stand
erect during the war months ahead.

NEWS AND COMMENT

The other day the power was off
at the Daily Citizen office until almost
press time, but there was plenty of
heat around the office. Quite a num-
ber of the force in the back end of the
shop emitted explosive sounds that
almost savored of profanity. The
front end being of finer mental qual-
ity merely pent up a few ideas for the
future.

There is beginning to be quite an
absence of young men's faces about
town. It may be irrelevant to say it
but some of our little beauties about
town will not be able to be so dis-
criminating until the boys come back.
However, the real American girl will
sweetheart and content herself with
nothing more thrilling than letter
writing and sweater knitting, which
if she does properly will be a very
worthy bit.

Withal our national and urban hus-
tle and bustle the minds of the peo-
ple seem to be turning more to think
of religion than in normal times. For
instance here in Baxter Springs in
the busiest time we have ever known
a number of religious movements are
under way. The Methodists are build-
ing a fine church. The Presbyterians
are making some improvements and
have inaugurated an unusually active
administration. The Christians are
staging a big revival and even the A.
M. E.'s have a busy program sched-
uled for the near future.

The report has been circulated
around town that 190 more Cherokee
county boys would leave for the train-
ing camps next Saturday and that
some would be called out every Sat-
urday. The report has been creating
some alarm. The Daily Citizen phoned
to Columbus yesterday and learned
that the 190 was only 19 boys who

were given a few days grace because
of being sent to Fort Logan instead
of Camp Funston, where the boys who
left Monday morning. Four of the
nineteen are Baxter boys and the
names were printed in yesterday's is-
sue. The date of the next draft call
has not been announced.

It now appears that the man who
was killed by a switch engine in Bax-
ter Springs yesterday really intended
to commit suicide. Boys say the
man was sobbing and apparently very
despondent before the tragedy occur-
red. He had told a Baxter man a
short time before that he had spent
his last money for a piece of pie. An-
other story is told that he tried to
"make" a ride on one of the trains
south but was put off. How much
there is for some of us to be thank-
ful for. Side by side in the morgue
yesterday lay two bodies—one the
embodiment of the most acute mental
anguish so great as to culminate in
suicide and the other a strong man
stricken down with a dozen ails caus-
ing the most acute physical anguish
for the 30 days prior to his death.
The subject isn't appropriate to times
like these but a sight of these two un-
fortunates yesterday was enough to
inspire a deal of thankfulness in us.

NOTICE RED CROSS WORKERS

The surgical dressing rooms at the
Library will be open for workers
Tuesday's, Wednesday's, Thursday's
and Friday's from 9:30 a. m. to 4:30
p. m., until further notice.

Mrs. August Mayerhoff, of Com-
merce, Mrs. Leon Weaver and chil-
dren, of Lowell, and Mrs. Richard
Hodges of Baxter, enjoyed an out-
ing Monday and Tuesday in Mrs. May-
erhoff's Hudson superx. Monday
visiting Columbus and surrounding
country and Tuesday visiting the
country south of Baxter, Joplin and
other points.

Advertise in the News for results.

SLAVE TO DOPE WAS SENTENCED

**EDWIN HENDERSON, OF
BAXTER, BROKE INTO
DOCTOR'S OFFICE**

CUT THROUGH JAIL BARS

**Says He Thinks Trip To Hutch-
inson Jail Will Do Him Good
and May Effect Cure of
Enslaving Habit**

A trial in Judge Jones' court this
Wednesday in which a local dope fiend
was prosecuted, incorporated a strong
element of pathos. Edwin Henderson
pleaded guilty to breaking into Dr. J.
H. Boswell's office last Thursday
night and stealing a tube of hypoder-
mic tablets valued at \$6.

Henderson is a Baxter Springs
young man, 24 years of age. He has
been running over the country for
some years and only makes short vis-
its home. He was home on a visit
when he committed the office theft.
Henderson will be given a sentence
probably in the Hutchinson reform
school by Judge Dunbar. He says
that he is glad to get off with any
light sentence the court may be dis-
posed to give him and that he believes
it will cure him of the terrible habit
to which he has been a slave for the
past three years. Henderson is well
known to most of the old residents of
Baxter Springs. The mother was pres-
ent at the hearing as also was a
brother.

The day after the robbery Gene
Turned picked Henderson up and put
him in the Baxter jail just before
noon. Gene then went home for din-
ner and was gone but an hour and
upon returning found that Henderson
had picked the locks on the cells and
cut a bar from one of the windows
and was fast cutting out through the
brick next the front door to the jail.

One of the locks was missing and
has never been found. Only a case
knife was ever found on the prison-
er. Henderson readily confessed to
robbing Dr. Boswell's office and said
he had raided nearly all the doctors
offices in town hunting for material
for a hypodermic. The jail will have
to be repaired slightly.

After the arrest Turner took Hen-
derson to Columbus and when he was
searched to be brought back to Bax-
ter for trial another hypodermic gun
was found on him also his body was
punctured in hundreds of places.

Henderson was very voluble and
said he could show the police how to
gain entrance to any doctor's office
locked as was Dr. Boswell's. After
the influence of the dope wore off
Henderson seemed to be very peni-
tent for his acts.

Deputy county attorney L. M. Res-
ler was over from Galena Thursday
to try the case.

BIG RACE MEET AT PICHER

**Plan To Have Some Fast Horses—
Are Building 200 Stalls for
the Horses**

Picher, Okla., May 29—Arrange-
ments are being made for one of the
greatest race meets ever held in this
section of the country, by the Jockey
club amusement company, with head-
quarters at Picher, Okla. They are
now building a two hundred foot
grand stand and have two hundred
and fifty stalls under construction of
which one-third have been completed.
More than fifty horses are already
and fully two hundred more are ex-
pected before the race meet starts.

Horses from Hot Springs, New Or-
leans, Tulsa, Claremore and Jaurez,
Mexico, are already on the ground
and horses from other parts of the
country are on the way and will be
at the track on or before June first.
Sporting men from Chicago, New
York, New Orleans and many other
places will be here to see the races.
The race meet opens June eighth and
will continue to June 19th inclusive.

In order to accommodate the many
who will attend the races, the New
Hotel at Picher will be ready and the
new Hotel at Miami will be opened
so that they will be able to take care
of all that come to the races.

DESERTER SUICIDES TO AVOID CAPTURE

**WAS CHARGED WITH HAV-
ING OVERSTAYED HIS
FURLOUGH OF 10 DAYS**

WOUNDS PEORIA CONSTABLE

**Enlisted from Baxter Springs
Last Fall and At That Time
Wanted to Go Straight
To France**

Pleasant Burnisides, the Peoria,
Okla., young man who killed himself
Monday afternoon by shooting himself
through the head with a high power
rifle, was a deserter from the nation-
al army, and it appears committed
the deed after attempting to kill an
officer in pursuit of him.

Burnisides entered the service last
fall, enlisting through Charles Smith,
postmaster of Baxter Springs. He
was stationed at Newport News, Va.,
when about six weeks ago he obtained
a furlough to come back and visit
his relatives at Peoria.

When the ten days had expired
Burnisides wired and got an extension
of another ten days. He did not re-
turn to his regiment when that time
expired however, and after a reason-
able time had passed his commanding
officer began to make inquiry and
finding that he was still at Peoria,
sent orders to Constable Samuel Webb
to arrest and hold the deserter until
an army officer could be sent after
him.

Monday afternoon the constable
sought out Burnisides and asked him
if he had a right to be in Peoria. He
said he had papers giving him the
right and offered to take the constable
to the house to show them. When the
two got to Burnisides' house, however
he said that he had misplaced them;
but promised that if the constable
would go to the telephone station with
him he would call up an army officer
in Joplin who would explain. The
two went to the station and Burnisides
put in a call, presumably a fictitious
one. Then turning to the constable
he said, "You wait for the call and
I will run over to another place and
see if the papers are there." While
waiting at the phone a few minutes
later a man came in and informed
the constable that he had seen Burn-
isides with gun in hand going out to-
ward the woods. Constable West im-
mediately secured two or three men
and started in pursuit. When they
had penetrated the woods a few hun-
dred yards Webb heard a rustling in
the brush beside his path and turning
to investigate he saw Burnisides
crouching and with his rifle aimed at
the officer.

Exclaiming "I'll kill you now, you
son of a bitch," Burnisides fired point
blank. The bullet struck Webb in
the left arm, inflicting a serious
wound. He had evidently aimed for
the officer's heart and got within an
inch or two of his mark.

Notwithstanding, the officer gave
chase and fired five times at Burn-
isides. By this time Webb's brother
and the other parties in the posse had
come up and all started in pursuit
of the fugitive. They had not gone far
before they heard another shot. Fol-
lowing it up they soon came upon the
prostrate body of Burnisides. He had
turned his weapon upon himself and
had sent a bullet through his own
brain, dying instantly.

Constable Webb's wound, though
serious, will not cause him to lose his
arm unless the wound should become
infected.

Burnisides was born and raised in
Peoria. Buck Burnisides, a brother,
lives there, also a married sister. He
used to be a frequent visitor to Bax-
ter Springs.

On examination of the dead man's
body it was found that three out of
the five shots the officer fired at Burn-
isides had taken effect, although Webb
claims he could not see his man when
he fired, but simply guessed at his
position. One of the shots lodged in
the man's knee, another in the leg
and the third had penetrated the
stomach.

Burnisides had been despondent,
presumably over a love affair which
it is thought caused him to enlist in
the first place, since he expressed to
Postmaster Smith the desire to go to
France and get in the firing line as
soon as possible. While at home on
his furlough he is reported to have
told a young lady that he would never
return to the army.

HOME GUARDS A MILITARY BUNCH

**Crowds Watch Local Company
Drill On Military Street—
The Military Fever Is
Rising**

The military bearing, the military
feeling, military walk and military
talk is all the rage in Baxter Springs
and the Home Guards are largely re-
sponsible. The Home Guards are
wasting no time. All at once we have
developed quite a training camp right
here at home. They are an aggres-
sive bunch and no effort is being
spared to add to the number of en-
rollment. The drill on the streets last
night attracted a large crowd of peo-
ple. Fifty-six were sworn into the or-
ganization Tuesday night and the remain-
ing applicants will be sworn in next
Tuesday night. The hat was passed
down the line last night and \$6.80
was contributed to the company gen-
eral fund. Treats consisting of cold
drinks and cigars were presented to
the entire company by Scott's drug
store. The company is very desirous
of getting an enrollment of more busi-
ness men. A vote of thanks was given
to Walter Hartley for having de-